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HAMPTON MOTORSPORTS TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

Partners:

- City of Hampton, Department of Economic Development
- NASA Langley Research Center, Technology Commercialization Office
- Old Dominion University's College of Engineering, Langley Full Scale Tunnel
- Peninsula Alliance for Economic Development

What is the Hampton Motorsports Technology Alliance's purpose?

Based in Hampton, Virginia, the Hampton Motorsports Technology Alliance (HMTA) was organized to promote the region's expertise and technology resources to the motorsports industry. HMTA's long-term vision is to capitalize on the synergy between the aerospace and automotive racing industry by creating a motorsports technology research environment in Hampton, Virginia.

Memorandum of Agreement Between NASA Langley and Old Dominion University

Through a Memorandum of Agreement, NASA Langley Research Center and Old Dominion University, with the support of the City of Hampton, have precipitated a plan in which excess capacity of government research facilities can be utilized for motorsports research. The Langley Full Scale Tunnel has proven to be a successful example of bringing added value NASA lead research and educational opportunities to the broader community.

Synergy Between Aerospace and Motorsports Technology

NASA Langley Research Center, a world-class internationally acclaimed research facility, offers technology applicable to the motorsports industry. The synergy between aerospace and high-performance motor vehicles is apparent from aerodynamic applications to structure and materials (weight, strength/durability, sensors, adhesive, tire friction performance analysis, human factors). The products of NASA Langley Research Center have been widely applied to the design and manufacture of automobiles, ships, submarines and spacecraft. This huge technical resource is available to partner with companies and institutions in joint efforts to commercialize applied aerospace research.

Although top racing teams such as NASCAR, Formula 1, International Racing League, and Championship Auto Racing Teams dominate this unique industry, behind-the-scenes it is also fueled by a technology-driven network of businesses, engineering expertise and the dynamic promotions industry. This change reflects the industry's movement to identify research and testing capabilities to insure the safety of its drivers and a less destructive spectator sport for its loyal fan base. *Source: Virginia Economic Development Partnership.*

Skilled Regional Workforce

Per capita, Hampton and its neighboring cities boast the highest concentration of scientists, engineers and technicians, second only to the Silicon Valley. Engineers from aerospace, electronics, advanced materials, and space and defense are highly sought after for motorsports employment and corporate recruitment of talented engineers is highly competitive. HMTA is proactively fostering partnerships with the educational and industrial community that will result in an educated workforce with commercial environment experience, ready to implement the latest U.S. based aerospace technologies into the motorsports/automotive mainstream.

Location

Centrally located on the East Coast, Hampton and the region combine high technology with an educated and skilled labor force. From Indianapolis, Indiana to Charlotte, North Carolina, there is not a location that provides a concentration of high technology capabilities to this industry as broad and diverse as Hampton and our surrounding region. Hampton is connected to major Interstates 64, 95 and 85. Two international airports also serve the area. Nearby testing and track facilities are within a few hours from the area.

Web Site

In the upcoming months, the HMTA will launch a new web site, www.hmta.info, where users can directly access motorsports technology resource information and a private database of companies related technologies for starters. Under workforce services, pre-screened resumes may also be posted on the web site to assist race teams and companies searching for skilled training capabilities.

